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Feb. 17, 1937

President's Office
Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Will you kindly send me an application blank and information
regarding the scholarship you now are offering to newspaper workers.

Sincerely,

Gladys Hobbs
Gladys Hobbs.

March 16, 1938

Dear Miss Hobbs,

I am sorry to tell you that the decision has now been definitely made that women will not be eligible for Nieman Fellowships in the year 1938-39. At the moment of writing, it is impossible to say whether the question may be reopened in a later year.

Very truly yours,

HERONE D. GREASE

For the Nieman Fellowship Committee

Miss Gladys Hobbs
Deseret News Publishing Company
Salt Lake City, Utah

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to Jerome D. Greene- GH

Recently, in making application to a San Francisco newspaper I received this reply: "We don't need a newspaperwoman. We have one."

I am no particular champion of women. I grant that a good many of them are stupidly unaware. They are neither encouraged nor have much opportunity to be otherwise. Most women take jobs out of necessity or as means to another end. I have seen enough evidence of this in the women's departments of newspapers (where standards of journalism also could be raised.)

It appears that these reasons in themselves would limit the number of women applicants for the fellowships. Because of their lack of incentives and opportunities, the candidates would not compare favorably with most of the men applicants.

Wouldn't it be fairer simply to reject these applicants on their demerits than to reject them because they are biologically different?

I cite my own case, merely to give an example of the error in blanket decisions. I ask you to compare my qualifications with others submitted to you.

I have had six years of newspaper experience in Logan and Salt Lake City, Utah. My positions have included: City editor of the Logan Herald Journal, assistant city editor here, state editor, drama critic, assistant music critic, copyreader and head writer, rewrite man and general assignments reporter, society and woman's page editor. More than one editor has referred to me as a one-man newspaper staff.

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To Jerome Green- GH

The type of reporting I have done is unlimited and my ambition is great, but I am not allôwed to apply because I am not a man.

If through this you recognize that the attitude which led to the making of the decision is anything but scientific in aspect, and unworthy of Harvard, it will have accomplished its purpose.

Sincerely,

Gladys Hobbs
Gladys Hobbs.

April 1, 1936

Dear Miss Hobbs,

I have your letter of March 26 and am glad to have your point of view with regard to the eligibility of women for Nieman Fellowships. I am afraid you do not realize that Nieman Fellowships are no exception, in respect to the eligibility of women, as compared with all fellowships and scholarships in Harvard University. Most of what you say in your letter would apply as well to the question of admitting women to Harvard College, the Law School, or the Medical School. Whether for good or ill, Harvard has thus far adhered to its tradition of admitting only men as students in the University, with the following exceptions: women are admitted to the Graduate School of Education and to the School of Public Health; and graduate students in Radcliffe College, an institution for women in which all the instruction is given by members of the Harvard Faculty, are admitted to graduate courses in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, subject to the consent of the instructor in each case.

Opinions of course differ very much as to the relative merits of coeducation and separate education for men and women, and it would be rash to suggest that the discussion is closed. On the other hand, all that you say with reference to the propriety of entertaining applications for Nieman Fellowships from women goes to the general merits of Harvard policy in regard to coeducation. In other words, there has been no new ruling to the prejudice of women, and it would have taken an almost

revolutionary action of the Governing Boards to have made women eligible for Nieman Fellowships when no other fellowships or scholarships are thus open to them.

Sincerely yours,

LEONARD C. BIERSON

Miss Gladys Hobbs
Deseret News Publishing Company
Salt Lake City, Utah